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Jones

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(54) **PASSIVE CALL BLOCKING METHOD AND APPARATUS**

(56) **References Cited**

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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379/196; 379/207.15; 379/210.03

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See application file for complete search history.

A process and apparatus to support passive call blocking, a call block that is performed in a manner that the caller does not recognize as a call block. When passive call blocking is utilized, blocked callers receive a passive response, such as a continuous telephone ring, instead of an error message or rejection notification. The caller is thus unaware or uncertain that they have been blocked. Blocked calls are determined by comparing caller identification information with a caller database.

63 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets

